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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Korea	REPORT	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px;"></div>	25X1
SUBJECT	Factories in North Korea	DATE DISTR.	14 January 1954	
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25X1 Food Processing Factory near Ch'ongjin

1. In May 1953 the North Hamgyong Province People's Committee food processing factory was in To-dong (N 41-50, E 129-45) (EB-632236) on the outskirts of Ch'ongjin. The factory was in a building 25 meters long, 10 meters wide, and 4 meters high, with wooden walls painted black and a tin roof camouflaged with pine boughs. Five meters south of the factory were two wooden buildings, each 12 meters long, 5 meters wide, and 2.5 meters high, with tin roofs camouflaged with pine boughs. One of these housed the factory office and a dormitory; the other was used as a meeting hall and for the storage, in season, of beans, pepper, salt, fish, and other raw materials. An air raid tunnel had been dug into the foot of the hill at the rear of the buildings.
2. The factory processed side-dish materials such as soy sauce, bean paste, and hot sauce, primarily for employees of the Ministries of Transportation and Internal Affairs, and for the North Korean army. A portion of the processed food was also sold in Consumers' Guild Shops or in National Stores. Each customer organization sent its own ox carts to pick up the food as soon as it had been processed. The side-dish products produced at the factory were packed in earthenware jars and wooden tubs of various sizes.
3. Approximately 20 clerks and 150 laborers were employed in the factory which was operated 24 hours a day in three shifts.

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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated by "X" Field Distribution by "Z")

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Consumer Goods Factory near Ch'ongjin

- 25X1 4. A consumer goods factory operated by the Mass Trading Section² of the North Korean Ministry of Internal Affairs was in one of seven houses [redacted]. The red brick building was 15 meters long, 7 meters wide, and 3 meters high, with a tin roof camouflaged with hay. The factory produced such products as shoe polish, toilet and laundry soap, cotton thread, and insignia for policemen. In the front part of the factory was a shop in which were products manufactured by the factory as well as food supplies, candy, clothing, and other commodities. These items were sold to ordinary civilians, but were distributed free to policemen and other employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

5. [redacted] Six clerks and salesmen and about 20 laborers were employed in the factory and in the shop.

Vehicle Repair Factories

- 25X1 6. In June 1953 the No. 1 Vehicle Repair Factory under the control of the North Hamgyong Province Labor Party was in Minchu-ri (N 41-47, E 129-48) [redacted] Ch'ongjin, in a building 13 meters long, 10 meters wide, and 8 meters high, with cement walls and a tin roof camouflaged with earth. It had been a three-story building, housing the Provincial Labor Party headquarters, but after having been severely damaged in an air attack in August 1950, it was rebuilt and converted into a repair shop.
- 25X1 7. The No. 2 Vehicle Repair Factory was at Haepang-ni [redacted] in a building facing southeast, which was 20 meters long, 10 meters wide, and 3 meters high, with wooden walls and a tin roof. It was surrounded by a wooden fence painted black with white stripes. The northwest section of the building served as an office for both the No. 1 and the No. 2 factories.
8. The No. 1 factory was equipped with two lathes, oxygen and electric welding facilities, and other tools. The No. 2 factory had much better tools, including a 12-foot lathe.
- 25X1 9. About 50 meters north of the No. 1 factory was a garage which served both factories and which was 20 meters long, 15 meters wide, and 3 meters high, with cement walls and a tin roof camouflaged with earth. An average of eight trucks were usually waiting for repairs. Spare vehicle parts were also stored in the garage.
10. [redacted] The No. 1 factory employed about 20 people.
11. In addition to repairing vehicles, the two factories repaired, by special order, sewing machines, phonographs, and other household appliances. There were no security guards around either factory, but all the employees were alert for unauthorized personnel in the area.
- 25X1 [redacted] Comments.
1. Prior to the Korean war individual families produced their own side-dish materials, but after the war they were forced to buy their provisions at Consumers' Guild Shops or at National Stores.
 2. The Mass Trading Section was organized as a welfare organization for the members of construction units, security units, and police units under the Internal Affairs Ministry. The consumer goods factory was expected to absorb the food processing factory.

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